



Program for the Detection and Avoidance of Counterfeit Electronic Parts

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History

- In the 1990s the civilian aviation market faced a problem with “bogus” and counterfeit parts
 - Distributors were often blamed for insufficient oversight of products
 - FAA lacked resources to regulate distribution
 - FAA and industry worked together to develop a voluntary “higher quality standard” and auditing program

FAA Advisory Circular 00-56

- The FAA-industry committee identified potential problems in the distribution of aircraft parts [hazards]
- The committee identified solutions to resolve those hazards through proactive safety management
 - Each element of the quality standard is designed to proactively address a potential hazard

FAA Audited the Program in 2004

- Significant effect on unapproved parts
 - FAA AC 00-56 originally developed in response to concerns over “bogus” parts
 - Presence of “bad” parts in aviation part distribution chain is much lower than other supply chains [e.g. counterfeit, unapproved, etc.]
 - More importantly, unapproved parts are detected in the distribution chain and reported to the FAA
 - Unapproved parts detected and quarantined by distributors DO NOT GET to the air carriers!

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- Voluntary nature and use of third-parties to monitor allows FAA to better target scarce resources at more nuanced issues

Other Safety Effects

- Benefit of program—3rd party audit of suppliers/distributors to ensure quality—has led to widespread adoption as a commercial practice
 - Air carrier (customer) reliance has prompted distributors to voluntarily adopt these higher standards
- Regular audits ensure ongoing—not one-time—compliance to voluntary standard
 - Program currently reflects 699 commercial aircraft parts distributors who are maintaining these systems

Voluntary Industry Oversight for Defense Procurement

- A voluntary industry accreditation program similar to AC 00-56A can work for defense
 - Distributors are accredited to an industry standard and listed in a database (“trusted”)
 - Suppliers have systems designed to successfully detect counterfeit electronic parts
 - Systems can address other DoD priorities
 - Regular audits by third parties ensure that the supplier quality systems continue to meet expectations
 - Feedback mechanism can be used to improve the standard over time

Who is ASA?

- The Aviation Suppliers Association was founded in 1993
- Represents distributors, suppliers, surplus sales organizations, repair stations, manufacturers, airlines, operators, and other companies that provide services to the aviation parts supply industry
- Manages one of the acceptable accreditation mechanisms under FAA AC 00-56A [Voluntary Industry Distributor Accreditation Program]
- FAA relies on ASA to manage the database of accredited distributors [all accreditation mechanisms]

Questions?



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